

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

On page 6, please amend paragraph 1 as follows:

The aforementioned needs are addressed by the present invention. Accordingly, there is provided, in a first form, a keystore method. The method includes [retrieving]retrieving one or more certificates from a local database. It is determined if said any of said one or more certificates preexists in a preselected portion of a distributed database, and nonpreexisting certificates of said one or more certificates are stored in the preselected portion of the distributed database.